

Washington, DC -- Today, U.S. Rep. Michael A. Arcuri (D-Utica) named Peter Scalise as the 24th Congressional District Economic Stimulus Coordinator to assist local governments with requests for funding through the American Economic Recovery and Reinvestment Act (Economic Stimulus bill), which the President signed into law last week.

“Every community across Upstate New York has questions about how to apply for stimulus money,” **Arcuri said**. “The need for economic activity is great, and I want every local leader to have the facts on where to go and who to ask about funds available through the Economic Stimulus bill. As the state begins to put the resources of this legislation into action, my office will work with local officials to answer questions and provide guidance on how to apply.”

Peter Scalise serves as Arcuri’s Deputy District Director and will be the first point of contact for public and private officials interested in learning about the opportunities available through the Economic Stimulus bill for local projects. Those interested in more information are encouraged to contact Mr. Scalise by calling 1-800-235-2525 (toll-free in NYS).

The Economic Stimulus Bill contains approximately \$374 billion, nationally, for programs that directly impact New York State, of which the State is expected to receive close to \$24.6 billion. The legislation includes funding for education, law enforcement, and infrastructure, and will provide much needed relief from rising Medicaid costs for county governments.

The stimulus legislation delivers substantial support for infrastructure projects. New York State is expected to receive at least \$1.1 billion for highways and bridges. New York is also projected to receive \$435 million from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and \$85 million from the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund for water and wastewater infrastructure projects.

“I will continue to keep the pressure on the Governor to use federal funds for local projects, especially water and transportation infrastructure, and I promise to continue to fight for these local priorities,” **Arcuri continued**. “I encourage anyone with questions to contact my office and we will assist you in anyway we can.”

The majority of funding in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act will be distributed to

New York State in accordance with existing funding formulas. Allocation of funding within New York State will be at the discretion of the state. The Governor has established a website through which localities can submit requests for funding regarding local priority projects: <http://www.economicrecovery.ny.gov/index.htm>

. Local governments that submit a request for funding through New York State are encouraged to request a letter of support from Arcuri.

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